

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for synchronization of copies of a database, comprising:
 - determining changes made to a schema of a first copy of the database;
 - generating a migration script according to the changes;
 - incorporating the migration script into a framework;
 - sending the framework to a location of one or more other copies of the database for executing to update the one or more other copies.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the migration script includes SQL instructions.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the migration script includes instructions in the form of a derivative of SQL.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the migration script includes executable code.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the executable code comprises Java code.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of reading the changes comprises:
 - 15 comparing a stored snapshot of the schema of the first copy of the database to a current schema of the first copy of the database.
 7. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the one or more other copies of the database comprises a master copy of the database.
 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of sending comprises sending the framework by electronic mail.
 - 20 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of sending comprises sending the framework through a source code control system.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of sending comprises sending the framework by storing the framework on a floppy disk and sending the floppy disk by a physical mail service.

11. A method for synchronization of one or more copies of a database,
5 comprising:

receiving a framework containing a migration script at a location of a local copy of the database, the migration script representing changes made to a schema of a remote copy of the database; and

executing the framework to update the local copy of the database.

10 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the migration script includes executable code.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the executable code comprises Java code.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of receiving comprises receiving the framework by electronic delivery.

15 15. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of receiving comprises receiving the framework on floppy disk by mail using a physical mail service.

16. A system for synchronization of copies of a database residing at a plurality of locations, comprising:

a database schema reader for allowing a user to determine changes made to a schema of a first copy of the database;
20 a framework for receiving a migration script generated according to the changes; and

a delivery service for sending the framework to a location of one or more other copies of the database for executing to update the one or more other copies.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the migration script includes SQL instructions.

5 18. The system of claim 16, wherein the migration script includes executable code.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the executable code comprises Java code.

20. The system of claim 16, wherein the schema change tracking software is for reading changes by comparing a snapshot of the schema of the first copy of the database to a 10 current schema of the first copy of the database.

21. The system of claim 16, wherein at least one of the one or more other copies of the database comprises a master copy of the database.

22. The system of claim 16, wherein the delivery service is an electronic mail service.

15 23. The system of claim 16 wherein the delivery service is a source code control system.

24. The system of claim 16 wherein the delivery service includes a file server.

25. The system of claim 16, wherein the mail service comprises a physical mail service for sending a floppy disk containing the framework.

20 26. A system for synchronization of one or more copies of a database, comprising:

a receiving device for receiving a framework containing a migration script at a location of a local copy of the database, the migration script representing changes made to the schema of a remote copy of the database; and

a processor for executing the framework to update the local copy of the database.

5 27. The system of claim 26, wherein the migration script includes executable code.

28. The system of claim 26, wherein the executable code comprises Java code.

29. The system of claim 26, wherein the receiving device comprises an electronic network connection for receiving an electronic message containing the framework.

10 30. The system of claim 26 wherein the receiving device comprises a source control system from which a code release can be downloaded.

31. The system of claim 26, the receiving device comprises a mailing address location for receiving a floppy disk containing the framework by physical mail.

15 32. A computer program product having a computer readable medium having computer program logic recorded thereon for synchronization of copies of a database, comprising:

computer readable means for creating a migration script reflecting changes made to a schema of a first copy of the database in including the migration script in a framework;

20 computer readable means for sending the framework to the location of one or more other copies of the database for executing to update the one or more other copies of the database.

33. The computer program of claim 32, wherein the migration script includes SQL instructions.

34. The computer program of claim 32, wherein the migration script includes executable code.

35. The computer program of claim 34, wherein the executable code comprises Java code.

5 36. The computer program of claim 32, wherein at least one of the one or more other copies of the database comprises a master copy of the database.

37. The computer program of claim 32, wherein the computer readable means for sending comprises an electronic mail service.

10 38. The computer program of claim 32, wherein the computer readable means for sending includes source control systems.

39. The computer program of claim 32, wherein the computer readable means for sending includes a file server.

15 40. The computer program of claim 32, wherein the computer readable means for sending comprises the computer readable means for storing the framework on a floppy disk and for sending the floppy disk by a physical mail service.

41. A computer program product having a computer readable medium having computer program logic delivered and recorded thereon for synchronization of one or more copies of a database, comprising:

20 computer readable means for receiving framework including a migration script at a location of a local copy of the database, the migration script representing changes made to a schema of a remote copy of the database; and

computer readable means for executing the framework to update the local copy of the database.

42. The computer program of claim 41, wherein the migration script includes executable code.

43. The computer program of claim 41, wherein the executable code comprises Java code.

5 44. The computer program of claim 41, wherein the computer readable means for receiving comprises a source code control version control system.

45. The computer program of claim 41, wherein the computer readable means for receiving comprises a connection to a file server.

10 46. The computer program of claim 41, wherein the computer readable means for receiving comprises computer readable means for receiving the framework by electronic mail.

47. The computer program of claim 41, wherein computer readable means for receiving comprises means for reading a floppy disk containing the migration script, floppy disk being received by mail using a physical mail service.

15 48. A method for synchronization of copies of a database, comprising:
receiving a message containing a last time when a first one of a plurality of stored migration scripts was executed to modify a schema of a first copy of the database;

selecting a subset of the migration scripts of the stored migration scripts to execute on the first copy of the database based on the last time when the first one of the plurality of stored migration scripts was executed; and

20 executing the selected migration scripts to update the schema of the copy of the database.

49. The method of claim 48, wherein the plurality of migration scripts are stored on a server.

50. The method of claim 48, wherein the plurality of migration scripts comprise migration scripts received from one or more computers containing copies of the database, each migration script representing changes that were made to the copies of the database.

51. The method of claim 50, wherein the sever contains a master copy of the database, the plurality of migration scripts further comprising migration scripts that have been executed on the server computer to update the schema of the master copy of the database.

52. The method of claim 51, comprising bundling the selected migration scripts into a framework.

53. The method of claim 52, comprising sending the framework to a local computer for executing on the local computer, the local computer containing the first copy of the database.

54. A computer program product having a computer readable medium having computer program logic recorded thereon for synchronization of copies of a database, comprising:

15 computer readable means for receiving a message containing a last time when a first one of a plurality of stored migration scripts was executed to modify a schema of a first copy of the database;

computer readable means for selecting a subset of the migration scripts of the stored migration scripts to execute on the first copy of the database based on the last time when 20 the first one of the plurality of stored migration scripts was executed; and

computer readable means for executing the selected migration scripts to update the schema of the copy of the database.

55. The computer program of claim 54, wherein the plurality of migration scripts are stored on a server.

56. The computer program of claim 55, wherein the plurality of migration scripts comprise migration scripts received from one or more computers containing copies of the 5 database, each migration script representing changes that were made to the copies of the database contained on the one or more computers.

57. The computer program of claim 56, wherein the sever contains a master copy of the database, the plurality of migration scripts further comprising migration scripts that have been executed on the server computer to update the schema of the master copy of the database.

10 58. The computer program of claim 57, comprising computer readable means for bundling the selected migration scripts into a framework.

59. The computer program of claim 58, comprising computer readable means for sending the framework to a local computer for executing on the local computer, the local computer containing the first copy of the database.

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